



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

A

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/030,310	04/02/2002	Seung Wook Park	46484-00003	8997
23932	7590	08/30/2005	EXAMINER	
JENKENS & GILCHRIST, PC 1445 ROSS AVENUE SUITE 3200 DALLAS, TX 75202			MARTINEZ, DAVID E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2182	

DATE MAILED: 08/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/030,310

Applicant(s)

PARK, SEUNG WOOK

Examiner

David E. Martinez

Art Unit

2182

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/13/02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The specification is generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice. It appears to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and is replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors, too numerous to mention. For example Page 1, line 12 to page 2, line 25.

Applicant is required to thoroughly review the all of the different sections of the specification disclosure and amend accordingly.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 6, 8 and 10 are objected to because of the following informalities:

With regards to claims 1, 6, and 10, the use of the word "till" to mean *until* is objected to. The word till is more commonly used in the context of tilling ground, a compartment for money, or as slang for the word "until", whereas writing the word "until" is easier to understand when used in a conditional statement such as in the ones used in the claims. The use of the word "until" rather than "till" would not only help out the public, but also examiners when searching for competent prior art. Appropriate correction is required.

With regards to claim 8, page 18, line 25, the term "thereinside" is not a word. It should be deleted or replaced with a term to help further clarify the limitation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 7, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Art Unit: 2182

1. With regards to claim 2, it is not understood what is meant by the "selective switch part" or the "selective switches" are based on a 2-circuit 3 key interlocking method. In addition, is it the "selective switch part" or is it the "selective switches" that are based on based on a 2-circuit 3 key interlocking method? It is not clear what the applicant means nor what he/she is trying to claim.
2. With regards to claim 4, page 17 lines 28, "a transistors for the use of a driving" is not clear. Is the applicant referring to a transistor or several ones? What does "a driving" mean?
3. With regards to claim 5, "said specific pins" refers to the pins on the auxiliary memory or on the computer main board on claim 4?
4. With regards to claim 7, "said auxiliary memory" lacks antecedent basis. Claim 6 refers to auxiliary memories (plural) and claim 7 refers to one particular auxiliary memory. Is the applicant trying to claim that perhaps only one of the plurality of auxiliary memories is a hard drive without specifying what the other auxiliary memories are?
5. With regards to claim 11, the phrase "at about 12V" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the voltage limitation is fixed at 12 volts, or if it's allowed to fluctuate within a range of several volts.

Due to the vagueness and a lack of clear definiteness in the claims, the claims have been treated on their merits as best understood by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1, 2, 4-7, 10 and 12, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,067,618 to Weber.

6. With regards to claims 1, 6 and 10, Weber teaches an auxiliary store selecting circuit [figure 1 element 60] adequate to a computer system [figure 1] with multifunction, comprising:

a selective switch part for generating a selection signal [fig 1 element 62] for selecting one out of numerous auxiliary memories [fig 1 elements 54 and 56] in response to a selective manipulation[column 15 lines 12-40] ;

a selection maintaining part [fig 5 element 224] for maintaining the generated selection signal till a power-off even though there is the selective manipulation after the generation of the selection signal in the selective switch part, and then outputting it [column 18 line 54 to column 19 line 11]; and

a selective connection part [fig 1 element 64] for performing a connection between the selected auxiliary memory [fig 1 elements 54 and 56] and a computer main board [fig 1 element 50] in response to the selection signal outputted from the selection maintaining part [column 15 lines 12-40]. See also figure 4 elements 210, 212, 200-1, 200-2, 200-3, column 18 lines 21-51.

7. With regards to claim 2, Weber teaches the circuit of claim 1, wherein said selective switch part is composed of selective switches [column 17 lines 11-14, column 18 lines 27-33] based on a 2-circuit [the user interface is one circuit, the hard disk selection manager is another circuit] 3-key interlocking method by the number corresponding to the number of the auxiliary memories [3 buttons for 3 hard drives].

8. With regards to claim 4, Weber teaches the circuit of claim 1, wherein said selective connection part comprises a relay for performing an electric connection [column 8 lines 57-60] between specific pins of the auxiliary memory selected [fig 6 elements 278-1, 278-2, 278-3] and specific pins of a computer main board [fig 12, element 463 connected to element 440, column

Art Unit: 2182

24 line 48 to column 25 line 16], and a transistor [fig 6 element 302] for use of a driving, for driving said relay.

9. With regards to claim 5, the circuit of claim 4, wherein said specific pins includes a read pin and a write pin [fig 12, element 463 connected to element 440, column 24 line 48 to column 25 line 16].

10. With regards to claim 7, Weber teaches the method of claim 6, wherein said auxiliary memory is a hard disk drive based on an IDE system [fig 1 elements 54 and 56, column 9 lines 5-30].

11. With regards to claim 12, Weber teaches the circuit of claim 10, wherein said connector unit contains a switch block constructed with numerous connectors and numerous integrated circuit elements [fig 1, element 64 – inside details shown on fig 2].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 8, 9 and 11, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,067,618 to Weber.

12. With regards to claims 3 and 11, Weber teaches the selection maintaining part operating at 12V [column 17 lines 62-64, column 25 lines 52-65]. Weber is silent as to said selection maintaining part includes at least a flip-flop integrated circuit connected to said selective switch part. However, Webber shows the selection maintaining part to hold the value of the selection before a reboot of the system [column 18 line 54 to column 19 line 11]. Flip flops are very well known in the art to be used inside systems to create memory in order to hold values. It would

Art Unit: 2182

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to notice that Weber uses flip flops inside of his invention to hold the value of a selection before rebooting the system.

13. With regards to claim 8, it of the same scope as the combinations of claims 1, 3, and 5 above and thus rejected under the same rationale and for those same reasons.

14. With regards to claim 9, it is well known in the art to use light emitting diodes to visually display and inform a user of a particular condition for the benefit of communicating conditional information. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the selection maintaining unit further comprise a light emitting diode to visually display and inform the outside of that a specific hard disk drive was selected in response to a selective manipulation for the benefit of communicating conditional information to a user.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David E. Martinez whose telephone number is (571) 272-4152. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici can be reached on (571) 272-4083. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


KIM HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

8/24/05